

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10 /091 W  
-----180247Z 115906 /64

R 171400Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3110  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1325

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR, PINT, BU  
SUBJECT: EIGHTH CONGRESS OF FATHERLAND FRONT

1. SUMMARY: FATHERLAND FRONT HELD ITS 8TH CONGRESS  
JUNE 14-16 WITH SOME FOREIGN DELEGATIONS PRESENT. NO  
RESOLUTIONS OF SIGNIFICANCE WERE PASSED. PENCHO KUBADINSKI  
WAS REELECTED CHAIRMAN WITH SOME CHANGES AT LOWER LEVELS  
OF LEADERSHIP. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESENT BULGARIAN FATHERLAND FRONT (FF) IS DESCENDANT  
OF BROAD SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL GROUPS THAT OVERTHREW KING  
BORIS IN 1944. IT NOW INCLUDES ONLY BULGARIAN COMMUNIST  
PARTY (BCP) AND BULGARIAN AGRARIAN PEOPLE'S UNION (BAPU)  
AND PROVIDES SIGNLE SLATE OF CANDIDATES IN BULGARIAN  
ELECTIONS. IT IS COMPLETELY DOMINATED BY THE BCP.

3. FF HELD ITS EIGHT CONGRESS JUNE 14-16 IN SOFIA,  
SEVENTH CONGRESS HAVING BEEN HELD IN 1972. BULGARIAN DELE-  
GATES NUMBERED 1,927, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, 1,290  
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OF WHOM WERE BCP MEMBERS, 245 MEMBERS OF BAPU, AND 428  
DESCRIBED AS "UNCOMMITTED," ALTHOUGH PRESS NOTED THAT 130  
OF THESE WERE KOMSOMOL MEMBERS. FOREIGN DELEGATIONS FROM  
24 COUNTRIES ATTENDED, INCLUDING FOR MOST PART REPRESENTA-  
TIVES OF OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE  
GROUPS FROM GREECE, BENIN, ETHIOPIA, LEBANON, MADAGASCAR,  
MOZAMBIQUE, SYRIA, AND THE PLO.

4. RESOLUTIONS OF CONGRESS PREDICTABLY SUPPORTED WITHOUT DEVIATION POLICIES OF BCP. ONLY POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CONGRESS WAS ELECTION OF ITS LEADERSHIP SINCE FF CAN BE SEEN AS FARM TEAM FOR BCP IN UPWARD OR DOWNWARD MOVEMENT OF BULGARIAN POLITICAL PERSONNAGES.

5. IN RESPONSE TO TODOR ZHIVKOV'S PROPOSAL, POLITBURO MEMBER PENCHO KUBADINSKI WAS REELECTED AS CHAIRMAN OF FF'S NATIONAL COUNCIL. (HE HAS HELD THAT POSITION SINCE 1974.) OF DEPUTY CHAIRMEN, NIKOLAI GEORGIEV AND COLONEL GENERAL DEMIR BORACHEV WERE REELECTED, ANGEL TSVETKOV, LALYU GANCHEV, ANGEL SHISHKOV, PENCHO KOSTURKOV, AND ZDRAVKO MITOVSKI WERE PROMOTED FROM SECRETARY TO DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, AND FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN LYUBOMIR LEVCHEV (FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF CULTURE AND BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE FULL MEMBER) WAS DROPPED.

6. SECRETARIES: GEORGI ANDREEV WAS REELECTED; NEVENA GETSKOVSKA, A FULL MEMBER OF BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WAS DROPPED. MOST INTERESTING NEW SECRETARY IS HAMDI MUSTAFOV (HYUSEINOV), OBVIOUSLY OF TURKISH ORIGIN, WHO WAS APPOINTED ONLY LAST YEAR AS DISTRICT FF COUNCIL CHAIRMAN FOR RAZGRAD. DIMITUR GENOAAND ZHIVKO STOYANOV WERE PROMOTED FROM BUREAU MEMBER TO SECRETARY. OTHER NEW SECRETARY NAMED IS GEORGI PETKOV, WHO MAY BE BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO GREECE.

7. BUREAU MEMBERS: REELECTED WERE BULGARIAN WOMEN'S COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ELENA LAGADINOVA, KAMEN KAMENOV AND CONFIDENTIAL

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KIRIL KLISURSKI. NEW MEMBERS INCLUDE SIIKA ATANOASOVA NEIKOVA (FORMERLY DISTRICT CHAIRMAN AT PLOVDIV), AND LALYU DIMITROV, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF FF NEWSPAPER, OTECHESTVEN FRONT. ASEN PAVLOV WAS DROPPED.

8. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH FF IS DESCRIBED AS LARGEST MASS-BASED BULGARIAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, AS ADJUNCT TO BCP, IT HAS NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN BULGARIA APART FROM PERMITTING FEW THOUSAND MORE BULGARIANS TO HAVE POLITICAL TITLES AND ACCOMPANYING PERQUISITES, PROVIDING JUSTIFICATION FOR MORE CONTROLLED POLITICAL MEETINGS, AND FORMING PART OF PANOPLY OF PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY. FF IS ALSO USEFUL TO GOB INTERNATIONALLY IN DEALING WITH NON-COMMUNIST OPPOSITION PARTIES OF OTHER NATIONS WHICH MAY, FOR EXAMPLE, WISH TO VISIT BULGARIA BUT NOT AS GUEST OF BCP. (EXAMPLES WOULD BE ANDREJR PAPANDREOU'S PASOK OR ECEVIT'S PARTY, PRE-ELECTION.) AS POLITICAL ORGANIZATION FF IS TOTALLY STAGNANT. AT SAME TIME, THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT BCP WILL EVER DISSOLVE IT, CONSIDERING PURPOSES IT

SERVES.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PINR, PINT, BU  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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